

RESOURCES for AGING
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Welcome to Resources for Aging, the electronic newsletter (e-newsletter) of the **Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) in Lansing**. It provides timely information about aging network news, events and resources.

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Complimentary Issues are sent directly by e-mail to those on the e-newsletter distribution list, and printed copies are mailed upon request to those who do not have Internet/e-mail access. Also, this issue and past issues can be accessed at www.miseniors.net.

For more information about this e-newsletter, see the RESOURCES FOR AGING section at the end of this issue.

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AGING NETWORK NEWS

Mental Health and Aging Project to Conduct Third Annual Conference

Mark your calendar! The third annual Michigan Mental Health & Aging Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and coordinated by the Lansing Community College (LCC) Mental Health and Aging Project, will be held **May 23-24** at the Michigan State University (MSU) Kellogg Center in **East Lansing**.

Formerly called the OBRA Conference, it will address a number of topics, including "Understanding and Treating Compulsive Hoarding," "Comorbidity in Late Life: Bipolar Disorder," "Addressing Challenging Behaviors in People with Dementia," "Effective Communication Partnering" "Schizoaffective Disorder in Late Life," "Psychiatric Advanced Directives," "Suicide in Late Life," "Behavioral Treatment for Depression," and Accommodating Vision and Hearing Loss in Older Adults."

Keynote speakers include **Karen Ogle**, Professor of Family Practice at the MSU College of Human Medicine, and Co-Director of the Michigan Partnership for the Advancement of End-of-Life Care, and **Len Fleck**, Professor of Philosophy and Medical Ethics in the MSU Philosophy Department and the MSU Center for Ethics and Humanities.

For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Gatekeeper of the Year Named for 2005

Every year the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) names an employee of Consumers Energy as "Gatekeeper of the Year." This year, this statewide honor goes to **Dale Forsyth** from **Adrian**.

He has demonstrated a commitment that goes beyond his job of serving senior adult customers. For example, once he went to an elder's home to disconnect the heat because of nonpayment. When he arrived, he found that this person lived alone with no automobile or telephone service. So he decided to keep the heat on, and contacted the nearest Area Agency on Aging for assistance.

On another occasion, his concern for a recently widowed senior adult customer resulted in another referral to the Area Agency on Aging. As a result, the customer agreed to participate in the senior nutrition program, veterans' services and debt counseling.

The Gatekeeper Program was initiated in 1987 by Consumers Energy to identify elder customers in need of assistance. Each month, employees of Consumers Energy are nominated for identifying and assisting at-risk elder customers age 60 and older who are in need of assistance. From those nominated, OSA selects one employee each month to be named "Gatekeeper of the Month," and from those the "Gatekeeper of the Year" is selected.

Mr. Forsyth was honored as "Gatekeeper of the Year" for 2005 at the **February 17** Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) meeting in **Lansing**.

Brookdale Foundation Offers Grants for Dementia Day Care

The Brookdale Foundation has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide grants for qualified organizations to start-up of social model group respite programs for people with Alzheimer's disease and their family caregivers.

The foundation will award up to 15 one-year, seed grants of \$7,500 for new, dementia-specific group respite programs. The grants are renewable at \$3,000 for year two. Grantees will attend a three-day training conference in November, and will receive intensive technical assistance to develop their proposals.

Any 501©(3) tax-exempt or equivalent nonprofit service agency wishing to develop this type of a social model, day program for Alzheimer's families is invited to apply. Proposals must be submitted by **July 6**.

Applications should be based on a manual for community-based organizations entitled, How to Start and Manage a Group Activities and Respite Program for People with Alzheimer's and Their Families. It is available free of charge from the foundation.

To obtain a copy of the RFP and/or the manual, or for more information, call 510/540-6734 or e-mail to ey@brookdalefoundation.org. A grant application and proposed guidelines can be downloaded from the same website

Call for Nominations: 2006 NCPSSM Awards

The National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare (NCPSSM) is calling for nominations for its three 2006 awards. They are: the Service to Seniors Award, the Distinguished Seniors Award, and the Caregiver Award.

To be eligible for the Service for Seniors Award, a nominee must have an innovative approach to serving senior adults that is cost effective and efficient (showing evidence of coordination, collaboration and pooling of resources, and support of local and/or state efforts); improves their quality of life; and significantly benefits all communities with a focus on diversity.

For a Distinguished Seniors Award, an individual must make significant contributions to the arts (painting, music, poetry, dance, etc.), advocacy or service; exhibit characteristics of outstanding leadership and innovation; serve as a role model for other

senior adults and younger individuals; and provide dedicated and generous service to the community.

For a Caregiver Award, the nominee must contribute unselfishly to the care of a senior adult/loved one; provide intergenerational care and/or reach across the generations in a significant way; serve as a role model for other caregivers and care receivers; and give attention to the importance of self-care and self-rejuvenation.

The deadline for submission is **March 31**, and award-winners will receive a \$500 grant. For more information, go to www.ncpssm.org or call 800/966-1935.

American Public Health Association Seeks Nominees for Award

Since 1997, the Archstone Foundation and the Gerontological Health Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA) have offered an award for excellence in program innovation. This annual award is made possible by an endowment from the Archstone Foundation to the APHA.

The purpose of this award is to recognize and provide an opportunity to highlight best practice models in gerontology and geriatrics that have effectively linked academic theory with applied practice. It is a showcase for the creative work of practitioners and projects in the fields of aging and public health that merit consideration for replication. Many winners over the years are from the field of aging.

Again this year, the Archstone Foundation and the Gerontological Health Section of the APHA will accept nominations the 2006 Award of Excellence in Program Innovation. The deadline for submitting nominations is **April 1**. Applicants should have documented results, but have been in operation for less than 10 years.

The winner is expected to attend the 134th Annual Meeting of APHA in **Boston, MA** on **November 4-8** and make a special presentation to the APHA Gerontological Health Section. In recognition of this event, and to assist with travel expenses, the winner will receive \$1,000. Honorable mention may also be awarded to one or more of the applicants, as judged by an independent review panel.

For more information, call 404/657-5254 or e-mail to abgoldman@dhr.state.ga.us.

Bilingual Hotline Assists Elders with Medicare Part D Enrollment

The National Alliance for Hispanic Health provides a bilingual hotline to assist individuals with the Medicare Part enrollment process. Callers can receive one-one-one counseling, as well as help with applying for low-income subsidies and help with developing a plan to meet personal needs.

The toll-free hotline can be accessed weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (EST) at 866/783-2645. For more information, go to www.hispanichealth.org or e-mail to sufamilia@hispanichealth.org.

SSA Warns of Scam, Fraud and Suspicious Activity can be Reported

The Social Security Administration (SSA) warns about a new e-mail scam that targets senior adults, and it requests to be notified about any fraud or suspicious activity.

E-mail messages, purportedly from the SSA, are being circulated addressed to “Dear Social Security Number and Card Owner.” The message informs the e-mail reader that “someone illegally is using your Social Security number and assuming your identify” and directs the individual to another website that is designed to look like SSA’s website. Once directed to the phony website, the e-mail reader is asked to confirm his/her identity with “Social Security and bank information.”

The SSA Administrator and US Inspector General recommend that people always take precautions when giving out personal information. They should never provide their Social Security numbers or other personal information over the Internet unless they are extremely confident of the source asking for the information.

Also, individuals are asked to report any fraud, attempted fraud or suspicious activity to the SSA by calling 800/269-0271. Also, a Public Fraud Reporting form can be downloaded from www.socialsecurity.gov/oig. For more information, call 410/965-8904.

OSA EVENTS/MEETINGS

OSA State Plan Public Input Sessions

The next state plan public input session will be held 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. **March 29** at the U of M Flint Conference Center in **Flint**.

To date, OSA and the Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) have conducted five public input sessions (**October 21** at the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways in **Mt. Pleasant**, **November 18** at the Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center in **Lansing**, **February 21** at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in **Detroit**, **March 17** at Access in **Dearborn**, and **March 21** at Senior Services, Inc. in **Kalamazoo**).

Two more sessions will be conducted to obtain public input to develop the 2007-2010 State Plan on Services for Michigan’s Older Citizens. They will be held at the following sites:

March 29 at the U of M Flint Conference Center in **Flint**
May 19 at the Little Bear East Arena & Community Center in **St. Ignace**

Those interested in transportation, nutrition, housing, long-term care (LTC), health, independence, scams, employment, and volunteer opportunities for senior adults, and other issues important to senior adults are invited to attend these two free public input sessions to express their opinions to policy makers.

Verbal comments made by interested individuals at the public input sessions are welcome. Written comments also may be submitted by **May 20** to OSA (7109 West Saginaw Highway, P.O. Box 30676 in **Lansing**, 48909-8176). For more information or directions to the sites, go to the OSA website (www.miseniors.net) or call OSA (517/373-8230).

Michigan Task Force on Elder Abuse

The next meeting will be held 10:00 a.m. **April 6** at the Hannah Community Center, 819

Abbott Road in **East Lansing**. At this meeting task force members will reach a consensus on draft task force recommendations. No public testimony will be received at the meeting. However, following this meeting the draft recommendations will be posted on the task force website (www.elderabusemi.org) and the OSA website (www.miseniors.net) with instructions for submitting public comment.

Also, three public hearings regarding the draft task force recommendations will be held **May 8** in **St. Ignace**, **May 9** in **Detroit**, and **May 12** in **Grand Rapids**. Information about locations will be made available soon on both websites. For more information, call **Wendi Middleton** at OSA (517/373-8230) or e-mail her at middletonw@michigan.gov.

OSA/Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Directors

The next meeting will be held 1:30 p.m. **April 11** in Conference Room 3B, on the third floor above OSA, 7109 West Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Jan Bowlin** at OSA (517/241-3864) or e-mail her at bowlinj1@michigan.gov, or call **Mary Ablan** at the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (517/886-1227) or e-mail her at ablan@iserv.net.

Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA)

The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the State Advisory Council on Aging, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **April 21** at the Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center, 7501 W. Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Cindy Albrecht** at OSA (517/335-4016) or e-mail her at albrechtc@michigan.gov

State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC)

The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Commission on Services to the Aging, 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. **April 21** at the Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center, 7501 W. Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Sally Steiner** at OSA (517/373-8810) or e-mail her at steiners@michigan.gov.

EVENTS/MEETINGS ADDED SINCE THE LAST ISSUE

(Through August 31)

Hannah Speaker Series and Luncheon, featuring editorial writer Clarice Thompson and sponsored by Prime Time, the East Lansing Seniors' Program, **March 23** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call 517/337-1113 or e-mail to karndt@ci.east-lansing.mi.us.

Mini Health Fair, sponsored by the Madison Heights Senior Citizen Activity Center, and presented by nursing students from Wayne State University (WSU) **March 27-28** at the Senior Activity Center in **Madison Heights**. For more information, call 248/545-3464.

Whose Land is It? The Israeli/Palestinian Conflict in Historical Context, a free International Lecture Series seminar sponsored by Prime Time, the East Lansing Seniors' Program, and the Center for the Advanced Study of International Development **March 28** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing**. For more information call

517/337-1113 or e-mail to karndt@ci.east-lansing.mi.us.

Seventh Annual Community Cares Dinner & Auction, sponsored by Macomb County Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers **March 30** at the Andiamo Italia in **Warren**. For more information, go to www.neighborhoodlink.com/org/mcivc or call 586/983-3633.

Putting the “Super” in Supervision: How to Make Clinical Supervision Work for You!, an Alumni Breakfast Workshop Series seminar sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) School of Social Work **March 31** at the Sparrow Hospital St. Lawrence Campus Clark Conference Center **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.ssc.msu.edu or call 517/353-8620.

Call for Presentations: 2006 Annual Conference, sponsored by the National Guardianship Association (NGA) October 7-10 at the Newport Beach Marriott Resort & Spa in **Newport Beach, CA**. Proposed presentations must be submitted by **April 1**. For more information, go to www.guardianship.org, call 814/238-3126 or e-mail to info@guardianship.org.

8th Annual Government Performance Summit, the most comprehensive government management and measurement event of the year, sponsored by the Performance Institute, the Center for Excellence in Government, and Partnership for Public Service **April 3-5** at the City Center Hotel in **Washington, DC**. For more information, go to www.governmentperformance.org, call 703/894-0481 or e-mail to donnellan@performanceweb.org.

Principles & Techniques of Fundraising, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **April 3-7** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

Who will be There to Care?, a conference sponsored by BEAM, a subsidiary of MPRO, to discuss how to recruit and retain direct care workers in long-term care settings **April 4** at the Burcham Hills Retirement Community in **East Lansing**. For more information, call 517/703-9346 or e-mail to kpeters@mibeam.org.

A Socially Responsible Health Care System in the Era of Longevity Genes, a Leon and Josephine Winkelman Memorial Lecture sponsored by the University of Michigan (U of M) School of Social Work **April 4** at School of Social Work Education Conference Center in **Ann Arbor**. For more information or to RSVP, call 734/763-3395.

Pain Management at the End of Life: Bridging the Gap Between Knowledge and Practice, sponsored by Hospice of Lansing, Sparrow Hospice, Visiting Nurse Services and Estes-Leadley Funeral Home **April 5** at the Ingham County Human Services Building in **Lansing**. For more information or to RSVP, call 517/882-4500.

9th Annual MMAP Volunteer Counselor Recognition Conference, sponsored by the Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) **April 7** at the Burnham Brook Center in **Battle Creek**. For more information, call 517/886-1029 or e-mail to eileen@mymmap.org.

Powerful Boards, Powerful Fundraising, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **April 8-9** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

719th Conference on Professional Development for Women, sponsored by Clemson University to learn career building ideas **April 10** at the East Lansing Marriott at University Place in **East Lansing**. For more information or to enroll, go to www.clemson.edu/success or call 864/656-2200.

Building the Annual Fund, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **April 10-11** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

Softening the Blow of Economic Dislocation, a public policy forum sponsored by the Michigan League for Human Services (MLHS) **April 12** at the Lansing Community College (LCC) West Campus Center in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.milhs.org or call 517/487-5436.

Spring 2006 Joint Provider/Surveyor Training, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Community Health (DCH) **April 18** at the Rock Financial Showplace in **Novi** to show how leaders can build successful teams that are both nurturing and goal oriented. For more information, go to www.mpro.org/jpst/, call 248/465-7432 or e-mail to hpicotte@mpro.org.

The Diagnostic Dilemma: Is it a Medical or Psychiatric Condition, sponsored by the Lansing Community College (LCC) Mental Health and Aging Project **April 18** at the Wayne State University (WSU) Oakland Center in **Farmington Hills**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Macomb County's 2006 Senior Expo, sponsored by the Clinton Township Senior Adult Life Center and St. John Health **April 19** at the Best Western Concorde Inn in **Clinton Township**. For more information, call 586/286-9333 or e-mail to m.makowski@clintontownship-mi.gov.

Help for the Mature Driver, a 55 Alive Mature Driving Course sponsored by AARP and the Madison Heights Senior Activity Center **April 20-21** at the Senior Activity Center in **Madison Heights**. For more information, call 248/545-3464.

Best Practices to Improve Your Business, a workshop on a method, approach or practice of managing people and processes sponsored by the National Association of Women Business Owners Greater Detroit Chapter **April 25** at the Central Michigan University (CMU) Learning Center in **Troy**. For more information or to register, go to www.nawbogdc.org or call 313/961-4748.

Fundraising for Small Nonprofits, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **April 25-27** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

Grandparents & Other Relatives Raising Children, sponsored by the MFit Health Education Resource Center at the University of Michigan (U of M) **April 26** at the East Ann Arbor Health Center in **Ann Arbor**. For more information, go to www.med.umich.edu/mfit/herc or call 734/647-5645 or toll free 800/433-6348.

22nd Annual Developmental Disabilities Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Community Health (DCH) **April 26-27** at the Michigan State University

(MSU) Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call 269/337-4611.

Long Term Care... Beyond the Basics, a regional conference sponsored by Citizens for Better Care **April 27** at the Hampton Inn in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/347-7398.

Monroe County Caregiver Fair, a free event for family caregivers sponsored by the Monroe Aging Consortium **April 29** at Monroe County Community College in **Monroe**. For more information, call 734/242-8711.

Take Control of your Arthritis, sponsored by the MFit Health Education Resource Center at the University of Michigan (U of M) **May 2** at the East Ann Arbor Health Center in **Ann Arbor**. For more information, go to www.med.umich.edu/mfit/herc or call 734/647-5645 or toll free 800/433-6348.

Interpersonal Communication for Fundraising, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **May 3-4** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

4th Annual Vegetable Soup Variety Show, an intergenerational event featuring a variety of talents and ages and sponsored by Prime Time, the East Lansing Seniors' Program **May 6** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call 517/337-1113 or e-mail to karndt@ci.east-lansing.mi.us.

Song and Social, sponsored by the St. Rose Senior Citizens Center to celebrate the 27th anniversary of the center's founding **May 7** at the St. Rose School Building (now called Detroit Enterprize Academy) in **Detroit**. For more information, call 313/921-9277.

Principles & Techniques of Fundraising, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **May 8-12** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

The Disease Management Colloquium, an executive education course on the role of disease management in Medicare, Medicaid, healthcare cost efficiency, quality and medical errors reduction sponsored by the Jefferson Medical College Department of Health Policy **May 10-12** at the Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing in **Philadelphia, PA**. For more information, go to www.dmconferences.com or call toll-free 800/546-3750.

Sustainability: Let Your Mission be Your Guide, a seminar sponsored by the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) to provide nonprofit leaders and their board members with information to look beyond traditional fundraising methods **May 11** at the Loosemore Auditorium on the GVSU Pew Campus. For more information, go to www.johnsoncenter.org or call 616/331-7232.

4th National Conference on Health Issues in the Arab American Community, sponsored by the ACCESS Community Health & Research Center and the Wayne State University (WSU) School of Medicine **May 11-12** at the Dearborn Inn, a Marriott Hotel in **Dearborn**. For more information, call 313/216-2244 or e-mail to mhazboun@accesscommunity.org.

Statewide Meeting, sponsored by the Michigan Campaign for Quality Care **May 13** in the Lake Superior Room of the Library of Michigan in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.campaignforquality.org or call 517/324-5754.

Nonprofits & Innovation: Surviving & Thriving in an Age of Change, the 7th Annual Axelson Center Symposium for Nonprofit Professionals **May 16-17** at the Axelson Center for Nonprofit Management at North Park University on the north side of **Chicago, IL**. For more information, go to www.northpark.edu/axelson/2006.cfm, call 877/678-4438 or e-mail to kmaldre@northpark.edu.

Powerful Boards, Powerful Fundraising, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **May 20-21** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

17th Annual Summer Geriatric Institute: Caring for the Vulnerable, sponsored by the Saint Louis University Health Sciences Center **June 6-7** at St. Louis University in **St. Louis, MO**. For more information, go to <http://aging.slu.edu> or call 314/977-8848.

Interpersonal Communication for Fundraising, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **June 7-8** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

Principles & Techniques of Fundraising, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **June 12-16** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

55th Annual Session: School on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependencies, sponsored by the University of Utah and the Utah State Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health **June 18-23** at the University of Utah campus in **Salt Lake City, UT**. For more information, go to www.uuhsc.utah.edu/uas or call 801/538-4343.

CEO 201, a management and leadership training seminar sponsored by the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) for new executive directors of nonprofit organizations **June 20-22** at Alumni House on the GVSU Allendale Campus. For more information, go to www.johnsoncenter.org or call 616/331-7232.

Third Annual Family Gathering, a meeting and gathering sponsored by the Family Support Work Group and the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council **July 11** at Hawk Island Park in **Lansing**. For more information, call 334-6123.

Statewide Meeting, sponsored by the Michigan Campaign for Quality Care **July 15** in the Lake Superior Room of the Library of Michigan in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.campaignforquality.org or call 517/324-5754.

Governor's Statewide Conference on Aging: the Changing Face of Aging, sponsored by the Nebraska Division of Aging and Disability Services, the State Unit on Aging, **August 8-10** at the Holiday Inn in **Kearney, NE**. For more information, call toll-free 800/942-7830.

Governing Nonprofits for Success, a conference sponsored by the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) for board members and executives of nonprofit organizations to discuss governance issues and techniques **September 15** at the Loosemore Auditorium on the GVSU Pew Campus. For more information, go to www.johnsoncenter.org or call 616/331-7232.

Powerful Boards, Powerful Fundraising, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **September 20-21** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

26th Annual Conference: Transitions Through a Lifespan, sponsored by the Brain Injury Association of Michigan **September 28-29** at the Lansing Center in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.biami.org or call toll-free 800/772-4323.

2nd Annual St. Clair County Caregiver Fair, a free event for family caregivers sponsored by Area Agency on Aging (AAA) 1B **September 30** at the Thomas Edison Inn in **Port Huron**. For more information, call toll-free 800/852-7795 or e-mail to jjarvis@aaa1b.com.

DEMENTIA EVENTS/MEETINGS ADDED SINCE THE LAST ISSUE

18th Annual Nassau Alzheimer's Coping and Caring Conference & Expo, an informal conference for families and professional caregivers **March 25** at the Long Island Marriott Hotel in **Uniondale, NY**. For more information, call 516/767-6856.

Person-Centered Dementia Care: What is it, Why it Works and Methods for How to, sponsored by the Greater Michigan Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association **April 27** at the offices of The Greater Michigan Chapter Alzheimer's Association in **Southfield**. For more information, call 810/231-2723 or e-mail to annerobinson2@sbcglobal.net.

Understanding Alzheimer's, an introductory program sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association Great Lakes Chapter to recognize possible signs of Alzheimer's Disease; better understand how Alzheimer's is diagnosed; recognize the effects of Alzheimer's on the brain; and gain access to community resources. The programs will be held:

April 10 at Spring Arbor Assisted Living in **Spring Arbor**

April 13 at Active Living for Adults (ALFA) in **East Lansing**

April 24 at the Portage Senior Center in **Portage**

April 26 at the Chelsea Senior Center in **Chelsea**

May 3 at the Fremont Public Library in **Fremont**

May 9 at Catholic Social Services in **Muskegon**

May 17 at the St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital in **Howell**

May 23 at Redeemer United Methodist Church in **DeWitt**

May 25 at the Frenchtown Senior Center in **Monroe**

May 31 at the Hillsdale Workforce Development and Technology Center in **Hillsdale**

June 6 at the CQC Stephenson Home in **Adrian**

June 6 at the Woodlawn Meadows Retirement Village in **Hastings**

June 8 at the St. Joseph County Commission on Aging in **Three Rivers**

June 8 at West Shore Community College in **Scottville**

June 12 at the John Ganton's Countryside Retirement Community in **Jackson**

June 13 at the Sparrow Professional Building in **Lansing**
June 15 at the Family Health Care Annex in **Baldwin**
June 15 at the H&C Burnside Senior Center in **Coldwater**
June 20 at Eaton Rapids Senior Center in **Eaton Rapids**
June 23 at the Ann Arbor Senior Center in **Ann Arbor**

For more information, go to www.alzmigreatlakes.org or call 800/272-3900.

Maintain Your Brain: How to Live a Brain Healthy Lifestyle, a workshop sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association Great Lakes Chapter to provide an educational experience and interactive exploration of the latest insights about what individuals can do for lifelong brain health. The workshops will be held:

April 28 at the Pittsfield Senior Center in **Ann Arbor**
May 22 at the Chelsea Community Hospital in **Chelsea**
May 23 at Arbor Woods in **Jackson**
May 25 at the Washtenaw County LBPD in **Ann Arbor**
June 5 at the Burnham Brook Center in **Battle Creek**

For more information, go to www.alzmigreatlakes.org or call 800/272-3900.

Caring for a Person with Late Stage Alzheimer's Disease, a program sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association Great Lakes Chapter to discuss the challenges caregivers face during the late stage of Alzheimer's Disease; what they can expect as the disease progresses; and how to make meaningful connections with their loved ones, and maintain their connections with family and friends. The programs will be held:

April 26 at the Burnham Brook Center in **Battle Creek**
April 27 at the Mercy Family Care Center in **Muskegon**
May 11 at the Sparrow Health System St. Lawrence Campus in **Lansing**
May 25 at Senior Services, Inc. in **Kalamazoo**
June 8 at the Jackson County Department on Aging in **Jackson**
June 20 at the Red Cross in **Ann Arbor**

For more information, go to www.alzmigreatlakes.org or call 800/272-3900.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCES

7th Annual Art of Aging Successfully Conference: Learning, Laughing and Caring, sponsored by the Wayne State University (WSU) Institute of Gerontology (IOG) **March 29** at the Greater Grace Temple in **Detroit** to showcase the creative interests (crafts, memoirs and music) of non-professional Michigan senior adults age 55 and older. For more information, call 313/577-2297 or e-mail to j.mendez@wayne.edu.

Senior Summit 2006, a conference entitled "The Upside of Aging: The Business of Aging Professional Development Seminar," and sponsored by AARP and the Traverse Area Chamber of Commerce, and hosted by the Aging Institute of Michigan (AIM) **April 25** at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in **Traverse City**. For more information, go to www.seniorsummit.net or call 231/941-1905.

Michigan Nonprofit Super Conference 2006: New Directions in Nonprofit Excellence, sponsored by the Michigan Nonprofit Association **May 2-3** at the Sheraton Detroit Novi in **Novi**. For more information, go to www.mnaonline.org or call toll-free 888/242-7075.

19th Annual Issues in Aging Conference, sponsored by the Wayne State University Institute of Gerontology **May 15-16** at the Management Education Center in **Troy**. It will focus on "Cognitive Impairments: Clinical and Community Impacts," and "Older Adults: Emerging Tools and Programs." For more information, call 313/577-1180 or e-mail to dcme@med.wayne.edu.

Partnering in Care: The Seventh Dr. Richard Seyfarth Schreiber Memorial Conference, sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association Michigan Great Lakes Chapter **May 16** at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in **Kalamazoo**. For more information go to www.alzmigreatlakes.org or call 269/387-4174.

2006 Joint Annual Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Association of Nutrition and Aging Service Programs (MANASP) and the Michigan Directors of Services to the Aging (MDSA) **May 17-18** at the Doubletree in **Bay City**. For more information, call 810/987-8811 or e-mail to coaj_hager@arenet.net or katygchc@sbcglobal.net.

Third Annual Michigan Mental Health & Aging Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and coordinated by the Lansing Community College (LCC) Mental Health and Aging Project **May 23-24** at the Michigan State University (MSU) Kellogg Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu. See also the AGING NETWORK NEWS section of this issue (above).

MICHIGAN NONPROFIT SEMINARS/TRAINING EVENTS

Depression in Older Adults: Recognition and Treatment, a Spring 2006 Gerontology Seminar sponsored by the Lansing Community College (LCC) Health and Human Services Careers Department, and the LCC Mental Health and Aging Project **March 24** at LCC in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Challenging Behaviors of Dementia, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **March 31** at Shelby Adult Education in **Shelby**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Final Financial Decisions, an Issues in Aging for Professionals and Families Seminar sponsored by Macomb County Community College **April 3** at its Fraser Campus in **Fraser**. For more information, go to www.macomb.edu or call 586/498-4006.

Skills Content for Social Work with Diverse Populations: Refugee Populations, a free workshop sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) School of Social Work **April 3** in Baker Hall at MSU. For more information, call 517/353-8616 or e-mail to hallr@msu.edu.

Losing Your World, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **April 14**

at Above & Beyond in **Norton Shores**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Aging, a Contemporary Issues in Aging seminar sponsored by Michigan State University (MSU) School of Social Work Continuing Education Program as part of its Professional Seminar Series **April 22** at MSU in **East Lansing**. For more information, go to www.ssc.msu.edu/sw/ceu/index.html or call 517/353-8620.

Advanced Techniques in Dementia Care, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **April 28** at Michigan Works at Michigan Works in **Reed City**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Losing Your World, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **May 19** at the Montcalm County Commission on Aging in **Stanton**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Grant Writing Made Simple, a training session sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **May 25** at the Holiday Inn-Saginaw in **Lansing**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

Advanced Techniques in Dementia Care, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **June 9** at Evergreen Commons in **Holland**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Managing Challenging Behaviors of Dementia, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **June 16** at the Osceola State Bank in **Baldwin**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Identifying Community Resources, a training session sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **June 23** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

OTHER MICHIGAN EVENTS/MEETINGS

Best Practices of Northern Michigan Committee (BPNM) Meeting, sponsored by Citizens for Better Care of Northern Michigan and the Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency/Region IX Area Agency on Aging (AAA-9) **April 4** at the Diocese of Gaylord in **Gaylord**. For more information, call toll-free 866/485-9393 or 231/947-2504.

Kent County Kinship Legal and Meditation Meeting, sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **April 20** at the Eastbrook Homes Conference Center in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

Gala 2006: An Evening Under the Stars, entitled "Living Longer and Loving It" with net proceeds to benefit the Chronic Illness Coalition (CIC) **April 25** at the Laurel Manor Convention Center in **Livonia**. For more information, call 734/658-4317.

Wayne County Kinship Legal and Mediation Meeting, sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **April 26** at the William Costick Center in **Farmington Hills**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

Best Practices of Northern Michigan Committee (BPNM) Meeting, sponsored by Citizens for Better Care of Northern Michigan and the Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency/Region IX Area Agency on Aging (AAA-9) **May 2** at the Medilodge in **Hillman**. For more information, call toll-free 866/485-9393 or 231/947-2504.

Ingham County Kinship Caregivers Speak-Out Meeting with State Legislators interested in kinship issues, sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **May 12** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

UP Kinship Service Provider's Meeting, sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **June 1** at the Northern Michigan University (NMU) Don Bottum University Center in **Marquette**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS OUTSIDE MICHIGAN

Restoring Acts of Triumph: A Sensorimotor Approach to the Treatment of Traumatic Memory, sponsored by Voices Set Free and the Washington County Department of Community Corrections **March 24** at The Portland Hilton in **Portland, OR**. For more information, go to www.voicesetfree.org or call 503/352-1018.

Senior Housing Operations & Financing Summit, sponsored by the World Research Group and the Wall Street Journal to optimize performance, and obtain capital for independent, assisted living, skilled nursing and CCRC properties **March 27-28** at Park Central New York in **New York, NY**. For more information, go to www.worldrg.com or call toll-free 800/647-7600.

The Next Step: Action Against Elder Abuse, the 20th Annual OCAPS Conference sponsored by the Ohio Coalition for Adult Protective Services (OCAPS) **March 27-28** at the Embassy Suites Hotel Columbus-Dublin in **Dublin, OH**. For more information, go to www.ocapsohio.org/conference.html or call 614/481-3511.

Summit: Aging in Developmental Disabilities, sponsored by the YAI National Institute for People with Disabilities Network **March 28** at the Institute in **New York, NY**. For more information, go to www.yai.org or call 212/273-6192.

Tools for Spiritual Care, an all-day seminar to explore various techniques for spiritual care through case studies sponsored by the Center for Spirituality and Aging and California Lutheran Homes **March 29** at the Villa Gardens Retirement Community in **Pasadena, CA** and **March 30** at Mt. Miguel Covenant Village in **Spring Valley, CA**. For more information, go to www.spiritualityandaging.org or call 714/239-6267.

2006 Annual National Aging and Law Conference, entitled "Elder Rights: Building the

Past, Strengthening the Future” and sponsored by the AARP Foundation, the National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA) and others, **April 20-23** at the Double Tree Hotel in **Arlington, VA**. For more information, go to www.aarp.org/nltp or call 202/434-2197.

Expo 2006, sponsored by the Community Transportation Association of America **June 3-9** at the Gaylord Palms in **Orlando, FL**. This event includes the **National Medical Transportation Conference** and the **New Mobility Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities Conference**. For more information, go to www.ctaa.org, call 202/247-8356 or e-mail to Dickson@ctaa.org.

2006 National Aging and Disability I&R/A Symposium, sponsored by the National Aging I&R Support Center and the National State Units on Aging (NASUA) to be held in conjunction with the Alliance of Information & Referral Systems (AIRA) Training and Education Conference **June 4-7** at the Hyatt Regency Milwaukee in **Milwaukee, WI**. For more information go to www.nasua.org/informationandreferral, call 202/898-2578 or e-mail to glink@nasua.org.

Annual Research Meeting 2006 (the premier forum for health services research), sponsored by Academy Health **June 25-27** at the Washington State Convention & Trade Center in **Seattle, WA**. For more information, go to www.academyhealth.org/arm/abstracts.

Annual Training Conference, sponsored by the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Service Providers (NANASP) **June 29-July 1** at the Wynfry Hotel in **Birmingham, AL**. For more information, go to www.nanasp.org or call 202/682-6899.

30th Annual Summer School of Gerontology, sponsored by the South Carolina Lieutenant Governor’s Office on Aging **August 20-25** to provide education and training for professionals who work with the aging population and others interested in aging issues at Springmaid Beach, **Myrtle Beach, SC**. The lodging and meal costs of presenters, as well as limited travel costs, will be covered. For more information, call 803/734-9878 or e-mail to halljen@aging.sc.gov.

FOR-PROFIT TRAINING EVENTS/RESOURCES

The following information about for-profit training events and resources is presented as a public service for informational purposes only, and should not be interpreted as constituting OSA promotion or endorsement. OSA does not receive financial or any other benefit for providing this information.

For-Profit Training Events

The Essentials of Communicating with Diplomacy and Professionalism, sponsored by Skillpath Seminars on how to handle touchy topics, problem people and sticky situations **April 10-11** in **Troy** and **May 22-23** in **Lansing**. For more information go to www.skillpath.com or call toll-free 800/873-7545.

The Managers and Supervisors Conference, sponsored by Skillpath Seminars to boost the effectiveness of managers and supervisors at all levels **March 31** in

Marquette. For more information, go to www.compumaster.net or call toll-free 800/867-4340.

Improving Employee Performance, sponsored by Skillpath Seminars **April 10** in **Marquette**, **April 11** in **Sault Ste. Marie**, **April 12** in **Traverse City**, **April 13** in **Saginaw**, **May 1** in **Lansing**, **May 2** in **Flint** and **May 3** in **Farmington Hills**. For more information go to www.skillpath.com or call toll-free 800/873-7545.

The Conference for Women, sponsored by Skillpath Seminars to provide breakthrough success strategies and insights for women of all ages **April 13** in **Traverse City**, and **May 31** in **Troy**. For more information go to www.skillpath.com or call toll-free 800/873-7545.

Management Training for the Newly Promoted, sponsored by Skillpath Seminars **May 4** in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, go to www.compumaster.net or call toll-free 800/867-4340.

How to Become a Better Communicator, sponsored by Skillpath Seminars on how to communicate effectively with people **May 22** in **Grand Rapids** and **May 23** in **Saginaw**. For more information, go to www.compumaster.net or call toll-free 800/867-4340.

Microsoft Excel: Excel Basics, sponsored by Fred Pryor Seminars **June 26** in **Marquette**, **July 11** in **Kalamazoo**, **July 13** in **Flint**, **July 13** in **Grand Rapids**, **July 17** in **Ann Arbor**, **July 25** in **Jackson** and **July 27** in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.pryor.com or call toll-free 800/556-3012.

Microsoft Excel: Beyond the Basics, sponsored by Fred Pryor Seminars **June 27** in **Marquette**, **July 12** in **Kalamazoo**, **July 14** in **Flint**, **July 14** in **Grand Rapids**, **July 18** in **Ann Arbor**, **July 26** in **Jackson** and **July 28** in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.pryor.com or call toll-free 800/556-3012.

FEDERAL REGISTER
(February 20-March 10)

DOL Holds National Summit on Retirement Savings

See the Federal Register dated **February 22** (Vol. 71, No. 35). Go to "Employee Benefits Security Administration" and see "Notices, Meetings." This notice from the Employee Benefits Administration of the Department of Labor (DOL) provided a draft agenda for the National Summit on Retirement Savings, as called for by the Savings Are Vital for Everyone's Retirement (SAVER) Act. The summit was held **March 1-2** at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel in **Washington, DC**. It was aimed at advancing the public's knowledge and understanding of the importance of retirement savings through a bipartisan National Summit on Retirement Savings co-hosted by the President and the Congressional Leadership, and by establishing an ongoing educational program coordinated by the DOL. The summit also increased public awareness and understanding; identified barriers to saving for retirement; examined the effectiveness of public and private programs to encourage saving for retirement; and made recommendations for action to promote pensions and individual retirement savings. For more information, call 202/693-6000 or 202/786-6700.

AoA Requests Comments on the Title VI Program Performance Report

See the Federal Register dated **February 23** (Vol. 71, No. 36). Go to “Aging Administration” and see “Notices.” This notice from the Administration on Aging (AoA) of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announces an opportunity for public comment on information requirements relating to Title VI of the Older Americans Act (OAA). Written or electronic comments must be submitted by **April 24**. The Title VI program performance report provides data for AoA to monitor program achievement of performance objectives; establish program policy and direction; prepare responses to Congress; and prepare data for the Federal Interagency Task Force of Older Indians. For more information, call 202/357-3501 or e-mail to yvonne.jackson@aoa.gov.

DOT Proposes Better Air Accommodations for Disabled Individuals

See the Federal Register dated **February 23** (Vol. 71, No. 36). Go to “Transportation Department” and see “Proposed Rules.” This notice from the Department of Transportation (DOT) proposes to amend a proposed rule that implements the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA) to provide for additional accommodations for air travelers who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf-blind. It proposes to require US and certain air carriers to provide prompt access for individuals who identify themselves as requiring hearing or visual assistance to the same information provided to other passengers in the terminal, and on aircraft, for example by captioning safety and informational videos, DVDs and other audio-visual displays; captioning entertainment videos, DVDs and other audio-visual displays; ensuring that individuals calling an air carrier’s TTY line for information or reservations receive equal response time and level of service as that provided to others; captioning televisions and audio-visual equipment located in airport terminals; and training air carrier personnel on communicating with individuals who have visual or hearing impairments. Public comments must be received by **April 24**. For more information, call 202/366-9342 or 202/366-0511 (TTY).

Corporation Announces Income Eligibility Levels for FGP and SCP

See the Federal Register dated **February 24** (Vol. 71, No. 37). Go to Corporation for National and Community Service” and see “Notices, National Senior Service Corps.” This notice from the Corporation revises the schedules of income eligibility levels, effective **March 1**, for participation in the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) and the Senior Companion Program (SCP). These revised schedules are based on changes in the Poverty Guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The 2006 FGP/SCP Income Eligibility Levels (based on 125 percent of HHS poverty guidelines) are for Michigan \$12,250 for a family unit of one; \$16,500 for a family unit of two; \$20,750 for a family unit of three; and \$25,000 for a family unit of four. For family units of more than four, add \$4,250 for each additional member. For more information, call 202/606-6825 or e-mail to seniorfeedback@cns.gov.

DOT Proposes to Amend Its ADA to Update Accessibility Requirements

See the Federal Register dated **February 27** (Vol. 71, No. 38). Go to “Transportation Department” and see “Proposed Rules.” This notice from the Department of Transportation (DOT) proposes to amend its Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to update requirements concerning rail station platforms; clarify that public transit providers are required to make modifications to policies and practices to ensure that their

programs are accessible to individuals with disabilities; and codify the DOT practice concerning the issuance of guidance on disability matters. Public comments must be received by **April 28**. For more information, go to <http://dms.dot.gov>, call 202/366-9306 (voice) or 202/755-7687 (TDD), or e-mail to bob.ashby@dot.gov.

Corporation Requests Comments Regarding Its Marketing Questionnaire

See the Federal Register dated **March 3** (Vol. 71, No. 42). Go to “Corporation for National and Community Service” and see “Notices.” This notice from the Corporation solicits public comments concerning its proposed marketing questionnaire to help inform volunteers and members about its recruitment efforts for various programs and initiatives. The survey, to be completed voluntarily by current and prospective volunteers or program participants (for example RSVP volunteers), would be conducted online with visitors to the Corporation’s website domains, by focus groups, and in public discussions with current and prospective volunteers and program participants. Completion of the survey would be voluntary. Public comments must be submitted by **May 2**. For more information, call 202/606-6713 or e-mail to smaynard@cns.gov.

CMS Awards Grant to NCoA to Develop Part D Enrollment Strategies

See the Federal Register dated **March 6** (Vol. 71, No. 43). Go to “Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services” and see “Notices.” This notice from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announces that CMS has awarded a one-year grant entitled “Cost Effective and Scalable Strategies for Enrolling Medicare Beneficiaries in Medicare Prescription Drug Extra Help” to the National Council on the Aging (NCoA), beginning **March 1** in response to an unsolicited proposal. The NCoA is partnering with Benefits Data Trust (BDT) to implement this list-driven intervention project that will use private-public partnerships to support a five-year strategy of identifying and enrolling eligible beneficiaries through a series of tailor, list-driven intervention approaches already known to be effective in Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) enrollment. Private funds already have been received to award grants to support test interventions for the proposed study. NCoA expects to test 24-30 intervention approaches over a five-year period. For more information, call 410/786-7211 or 410/786-5130.

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

The following bills are listed for informational/educational purposes only. The list does not constitute OSA support or endorsement. Nor does it indicate the critical bills OSA considers to be of priority. All of this information is current, as of the date of this issue. But it is subject to change at any time through legislative action.

For more information about the content and legislative history of a particular bill, go to www.legislature.mi.gov (the Michigan Legislature website) and enter the bill number in the box under “Legislative Bill Search.” Then click on “Go!” and the status page of the bill will appear with current information about the bill. Click on a “PDF” or “TXT” box for a copy of the latest version of the bill, or a House or Senate analysis of the bill.

The Michigan Legislature website (www.michiganlegislature.org) is a free service of the Legislative Internet Technology Team in cooperation with the Michigan Legislative Council, the Michigan House of Representatives, and the Michigan Senate. Also, call

the Michigan Law Library at 517/373-0630 for legal research questions.

If you have a question or opinion about any of these bills, contact your state legislator. Also, you may call **OSA Director Sharon Gire** at 517/373-7876 or e-mail her at osadirector@michigan.gov.

New House Bills (February 20-March 10)

House Bill (HB) 5723 of 2006

Appropriations; community health; Department of Community Health; provide for fiscal year 2006-2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Rep. Rich Brown** (D-Bessemer). Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 2-21-06.

House Bill (HB) 5730 of 2006

Appropriations; human services; Department of Human Services; provide for fiscal year 2006-2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Rep. Rich Brown** (D-Bessemer). Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 2-21-06.

House Bill (HB) 5744 of 2006

See "Bills that have Moved" (below).

House Bill (HB) 5745 of 2006

See "Bills that have Moved" (below).

House Bill (HB) 5750 of 2006

See "Bills that have Moved" (below).

House Bill (HB) 5762 of 2006

Health; other; long-term health care continuum act; create. Creates new act and repeals sections of Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978 and Public Act (PA) 218 of 1979. Sponsored by **Rep. Barb Vander Veen** (R-Allendale) and co-sponsored by nine others. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security and Retirement 2-28-06.

House Bill (HB) 5776 of 2006

Appropriations; zero budget; Department of Community Health; provide for fiscal year 2006-2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale). Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 3-1-06.

House Bill (HB) 5783 of 2006

Appropriations; zero budget; Department of Human Services; provide for fiscal year 2006-2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Rep. Rick Shaffer** (R-Three Rivers). Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 3-1-06.

House Bill (HB) 5795 of 2006

Appropriations; other; omnibus budget appropriations bill; provide for fiscal year 2006 and 2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt) and co-sponsored by seven others. Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 3-1-06.

House Bill (HB) 5796 of 2006

Appropriations; other; omnibus budget appropriations bill; provide for fiscal years 2006

and 2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt) and co-sponsored by seven others. Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 3-1-06.

House Bill (HB) 5826 of 2006

Human services; medical services; certain provisions that allow sheltering assets from Medicaid; revise. Amends Public Act (PA) 280 of 1939. Sponsored by **Rep. Chris Kolb** (D-Ann Arbor). Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 3-7-06.

House Bill (HB) 5827 of 2006

Human services; medical services; estate recovery program for Medicaid; implement. Amends Public Act (PA) 280 of 1939. Tie barred with HB 5828 and HB 5829 (which means none can take effect unless all do). Sponsored by **Rep. Chris Kolb** (D-Ann Arbor). Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 3-7-06.

House Bill (HB) 5828 of 2006

Health code; filing of death record with the department or estate recovery unit; require. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Tie barred with HB 5827 and HB 5829 (which means none can take effect unless all do). Sponsored by **Rep. Chris Kolb** (D-Ann Arbor). Referred to the Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 3-7-06.

House Bill (HB) 5829 of 2006

Probate; wills and estates; estate recovery program for Medicaid; implement. Amends Public Act (PA) 386 of 1998. Tie barred with HB 5827 and HB 5828 (which means none can take effect unless all do). Sponsored by **Rep. Chris Kolb** (D-Ann Arbor). Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 3-7-06.

House Bill (HB) 5833 of 2006

Property tax; exemptions; exemption for nonprofit senior citizen and disabled person housing; revise. Amends Public Act (PA) 206 of 1893. Tie barred with HB 5834 and HB 5835 (which means none can take effect unless all do). Sponsored by **Rep. Joe Hune** (R-Hamburg) and co-sponsored by eight others. Referred to the House Committee on Local Government and Urban Policy 3-7-06.

House Bill (HB) 5834 of 2006

Property tax; other; specific tax for supportive housing; create. Tie barred with HB 5833 and HB 5835 (which means none can take effect unless all do). Creates new act. Tie barred with HB 5833 and HB 5835 (which means none can take effect unless all do). Sponsored by **Rep. Steve Tobocman** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by eight others. Referred to the House Committee on Local Government and Urban Policy 3-7-06.

House Bill (HB) 5835 of 2006

Housing; affordable; certification of supportive housing property; provide for. Amends Public Act (PA) 346 of 1966. Tie barred with HB 5833 and HB 5834 (which means none can take effect unless all do). Sponsored by **Rep. John Stakoe** (R-Highland) and co-sponsored by eight others. Referred to the House Committee on Local Government and Urban Policy 3-7-06.

House Bill (HB) 5836 of 2006

Cemeteries and funerals; burial or cremation; persons entitled to make funeral and

burial arrangements for a deceased; revise language in public health code to reflect changes in estates and protected individuals code. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Tie barred with HB 5833 and HB 5835 (which means none can take effect unless all do). Sponsored by **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale). Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary 3-7-06.

House Bill (HB) 5837 of 2006

See "Bills that have Moved" (below).

New Senate Bills (February 20-March 10)

Senate Bill (SB) 1056 of 2006

Insurance; health; medicare supplement policies; modify. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Deborah Cherry** (D-Burton). Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 2-22-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 1083 of 2006

Appropriations; community health; Department of Community Health; provide for fiscal year 2006-2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Sen. Deborah Cherry** (D-Burton) and co-sponsored by one other. Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations 2-28-06. Senate Fiscal Analysis 2-28-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 1090 of 2006

Appropriations; human services; Department of Human Services; provide for fiscal year 2006-2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by one other. Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations 2-28-06.

Bills that have Moved (February 20-March 10)

See changes (below) to the following bills (from February 20 to March 10):

House Bill (HB) **4423** of 2005; House Bill (HB) **4455** of 2005; House Bill (HB) **4606** of 2005; House Bill **5336** of 2005; House Bill (HB) **5527** of 2005; House Bill (HB) **5602** of 2006; House Bill (HB) **5630** of 2006; House Bill (HB) **5631** of 2006; House Bill (HB) **5686** of 2006; House Bill (HB) **5687** of 2006; House Bill (HB) **5689** of 2006; House Bill (HB) **5690** of 2006; House Bill (HB) **5744** of 2006; House Bill (SB) **5745** of 2006; House Bill **5750** of 2006; House Bill **5837** of 2006; Senate Bill (SB) **403** of 2005; Senate Bill (SB) **838** of 2005; Senate Bill (SB) **848** of 2006; Senate Bill (SB) **849** of 2006; Senate Bill (SB) **1027** of 2006; Senate Bill (SB) **1028** of 2006;

House Bill (HB) 4423 of 2005

This bill would make it an unfair or deceptive act or practice for a telephone solicitor to misrepresent – in a message left for a consumer on an answering machine or voice mail – that the consumer had a current business matter or transaction, or a current business or customer relationship, and request that the consumer call the telephone solicitor (or another person) to discuss that matter, transaction, or relationship. Amends Public Act (PA) 227 of 1971. Sponsored by **Rep. Lisa Wojno** (D-Warren) and co-sponsored by 12 others. Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Technology 3-1-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analyses 11-29-05 and 2-15-06. Passed by the House

and given immediate effect 3-1-06. Referred to the Senate Committee on Technology and Energy 3-2-06.

House Bill (HB) 4455 of 2005

This bill would add a new section to the Public Health Code to require the Department of Community Health to take a number of actions regarding minority health. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Michael C. Murphy** (D-Lansing) and co-sponsored by 63 others. Referred to the House Committee on Health Policy 3-3-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analyses 2-27-06 and 3-2-06. House substitute bill adopted and amended 3-7-06. Passed by the House 3-8-06. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 3-9-06.

House Bill (HB) 4606 of 2005

See Public Act (PA) 38 of 2006 (below).

House Bill (HB) 5336 (2005)

This bill would create the Health Information Technology Commission which would prepare the way for patient medical records to be stored and transmitted electronically. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Gary Newell** (R-Saranac) and co-sponsored by 39 others. Referred to the House Committee on Health Policy 10-19-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 1-17-06. Reported with recommendation with House substitute bill 3-7-06. Referred to second reading 3-7-06.

House Bill (HB) 5527 (2005)

Torts; product liability; FDA approval defense for drug products; provide for rebuttable presumption rather than absolute defense and provide grace period for bringing certain actions previously barred by the defense. Amends Public Act (PA) 236 of 1961. Sponsored by **Rep. Edward Gaffney** (R-Grosse Pointe Farms) and co-sponsored by four others. Referred to the House Committee on House Oversight, Elections, and Ethics 12-14-05. Reported with recommendation for referral to the House Committee on Tort Reform 2-22-06. Recommendation concurred in 2-22-06.

House Bill (HB) 5602 of 2006

Both the Adoption Code and the Estates and Section 2114 of the Estates and Protected Individuals Code (EPIC) deal with the rights of inheritance of adopted individuals. This bill would amend the inheritance provision in the Adoptive Code (which is within the Probate Code) to defer to EPIC. It would specify that the inheritance provision in the Adoption Code would apply except as provided in Section 4114(2) of Epic. Amends Public Act (PA) 288 of 1939. Sponsored by **Rep Tonya Schuitmaker** (R-Lawton) and co-sponsored by two others. Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary 1-24-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-7-06. House substitute bill adopted 2-15-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-15-06. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 2-16-06. Referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary 2-21-06.

House Bill (HB) 5630 of 2006

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to require the state Department of Community Health (DCH), assisted by the state Department of Agriculture, to establish and maintain a Pandemic Influenza Plan; and in developing the pandemic flu plan, to require DCH to consult with the US Department of Health and Human Services, and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to ensure that the plan is consistent with the national preparedness efforts. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Tie

barred with HB 5631 (which means neither can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. Leslie Mortimer** (R-Horton) and co-sponsored by 23 others. Referred to the House Committee on Health Policy 2-2-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-19-06. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 3-1-06. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 3-2-06.

House Bill (HB) 5631 of 2006

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to require the Department of Community Health (DCH), assisted by the Department of Agriculture, to establish and maintain a Pandemic Influenza Plan; and to require the state Department of Agriculture to cooperate with and assist the director of the state Department of Community Health (DCH) if there is an epidemic involved avian influenza or another virus or disease that is, or could be, spread by contact with animals. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978.

Tie barred with HB 5630 (which means neither can take effect unless both do).

Sponsored by **Rep. Richard Ball** (R-Laingsburg) and co-sponsored by 12 others.

Referred to the House Committee on Health Policy 2-2-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-19-06. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 3-1-06.

Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 3-2-06.

House Bill (HB) 5686 of 2006

This bill would amend the Oil and Gas Severance Tax Act to distribute annually \$60 million to the General Fund, and then \$6 million to a new Home Heating Credit Fund out of the taxes, penalties and costs paid to the State Treasurer under this act. Amends Public Act 48 of 1929. Tie barred with HB 5687 and HB 5688 (which means none can take effect unless all do). Sponsored by **Rep. Mike Nofs** (R-Battle Creek) and co-sponsored by 47 others. Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Technology 2-16-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-28-06. Referred to second reading 3-8-06.

House Bill (HB) 5687 of 2006

This bill would create the Home Heating Credit Fund Act to receive revenue from the oil and gas severance tax to be used by the Department of Treasury in paying home heating credits under the Income Tax Act to the extent these credits are not fully funded by the federal low income home energy assistance program block grant funds. The new funds could not be replacement funds. Creates new act. Tie barred with HB 5686 (which means neither can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. Tim Moore** (R-Farwell) and co-sponsored by 47 others. Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Technology 2-16-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-28-06. Referred to second reading 3-8-06.

House Bill (HB) 5689 of 2006

Income tax; home heating credit; household income qualifier; revise. Amends Public Act (PA) 281 of 1967. Tie barred with HB 5690 (which means neither can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. Tom Casperson** (R-Escanaba) and co-sponsored by 48 others. Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Technology 2-16-06. Referred to second reading 3-8-06.

House Bill (HB) 5690 of 2006

Income tax; home heating credit; household income qualifier; revise. Amends Public Act (PA) 281 of 1967. Tie barred with HB 5689 (which means neither can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. David Law** (R-West Bloomfield) and co-sponsored by 47 others. Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Technology

2-16-06. Referred to second reading 3-8-06.

House Bill (HB) 5744 of 2006

This bill would amend the Mental Health Code to specify that a rule or an exception to a rule promulgated under these Codes could not discriminate in favor of or against any provider, facility or employer based on the presence of lack of a collective bargaining agreement with employees. Also, collective bargaining status, level of wages, or fringe benefits would not be used to demonstrate or excuse compliance with state licensing or regulatory standards or requirements. Amends Public Act (PA) 258 of 1974.

Sponsored by **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale). Referred to the House Committee on Government Operations 2-22-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-27-06. House substitute bill adopted 3-1-06. House Fiscal Analysis (HFA) Legislative Analysis 3-1-06. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 3-2-06. Senate Fiscal Analysis 3-6-06. Referred to the Senate Committee on Families and Human Services 3-7-06. Senate Fiscal Analysis 3-8-06. Referred to the Senate Committee of the Whole 3-8-06. Passed by the Senate 3-8-06. Immediate effect defeated by the Senate 3-8-06. Bill ordered enrolled 3-8-06.

House Bill (HB) 5745 of 2006

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to specify that a rule or an exception to a rule promulgated under these Codes could not discriminate in favor of or against any provider, facility or employer based on the presence of lack of a collective bargaining agreement with employees. Also, collective bargaining status, level of wages, or fringe benefits would not be used to demonstrate or excuse compliance with state licensing or regulatory standards or requirements. Amends Public Act 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Rick Shaffer** (R-Three Rivers). Referred to the House Committee on Government Operations 2-22-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-27-06. House substitute bill adopted 3-1-06. House Fiscal Analysis (HFA) Legislative Analysis 3-1-06. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 3-2-06. Senate Fiscal Analysis 3-6-06. Referred to the Senate Committee on Families and Human Services 3-7-06. Referred to the Senate Committee of the Whole 3-8-06. Senate Fiscal Analysis 3-8-06. Passed by the Senate 3-8-06. Immediate effect defeated by the Senate 3-8-06. Bill ordered enrolled 3-8-06.

House Bill (HB) 5750 of 2006

This bill would amend the definition of "licensee" in the Public Health Code so that it would include an individual authorized to engage in the practice of nursing or the practice of nursing as a licensed practical nurse under a multi-state nurse licensure compact. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Tie barred with HB 5493 (which means neither can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. John Stakoe** (R-Highland). Referred to the House Committee on Health Policy 2-23-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-27-06. Reported with recommendation with House substitute bill 2-28-06. Referred to second reading 2-28-06.

House Bill (HB) 5837 of 2006

This bill would amend the Income Tax Act to allow taxpayers to make a contribution of \$5 or more to the Home Heating Credit Fund through a check-off on the first page of the state individual income tax form. A taxpayer could designate a portion of a refund or could make a contribution that added to tax liability. Amends Public Act (PA) 281 of 1967. Sponsored by **Rep. Frank Accavitti** (D-Eastpointe). Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Technology 3-7-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 3-7-06. Reported with recommendation with House substitute bill 3-8-06.

Referred to second reading 3-8-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 403 (2005)

This bill would add to the Public Health Code to provide for the licensure of nutritionists and dietitians. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Sen. Laura Toy** (R-Livonia) and co-sponsored by three others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 4-21-05. Senate Fiscal Analyses 2-14-06 and 2-16-06. Referred to the Senate Committee of the Whole 2-21-06. Senate Fiscal Analysis 2-23-06. Passed by the Senate 3-8-06. Referred to the House Committee on Health Policy 3-8-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 838 of 2005

States have the option of providing Medicaid coverage to 19 and 20-year olds who have incomes that meet the Federal cash welfare or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) assets and income standards. States also have the option of covering a group generally known as Medicaid caretaker relatives. These are individuals, often grandparents, aunts or uncles who care for children who are not their own, and whose income is low enough to meet the cash welfare assets and income standards. This bill would replace the reference to categorical eligibility for these two groups with a statement that eligibility would be subject to Title XIX of the Social Security Act, subject to limitations imposed by the Department of Community Health (DCH) Director. This would allow implementation of limited benefits if a federal waiver were granted pursuant to Title XIX. Amends Public Act 280 of 1939. Sponsored by **Sen. Robert L. Emerson** (D-Flint). Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations 10-25-05. Senate Fiscal Analysis 2-13-06. Passed by the Senate 2-15-06. Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 2-15-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 2-28-06. Placed on immediate passage 2-28-06. Postponed temporarily 2-28-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 848 (2005)

This bill would amend the Insurance Code and the Nonprofit Health Care Corporation Reform Act, effective January 1, 2007, to permit an insurer or health maintenance organization (HMO) to offer wellness coverage. It would apply to an insurer providing an expense-incurred hospital, medical or surgical certificate delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in this state, as well as a HMO. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Tom George** (R-Portage) and co-sponsored by 21 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 10-27-05. Senate Fiscal Analyses 3-3-06 and 3-10-06. Referred to the Senate Committee of the Whole with a Senate substitute bill 3-14-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 849 (2005)

This bill would amend the Insurance Code and the Nonprofit Health Care Corporation Reform act, effective January 1, 2007, to permit an insurer or health maintenance organization (HMO) to offer wellness coverage. It would apply to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM). Amends Public Act (PA) 350 of 1980. Sponsored by **Sen. Tom George** (R-Portage) and co-sponsored by 21 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 10-27-05. Senate Fiscal Analyses 3-3-06 and 3-10-06. Referred to the Senate Committee of the Whole with a Senate substitute bill 3-14-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 1027 of 2006

This bill would amend the Adult Foster Care Facility Licensing Act to prohibit the promulgation of administrative rules or exceptions to rules that discriminate in favor or against a provider, facility or employer, based on the existence of a collective bargaining agreement with employees. This bill further provides that collective bargaining status,

level of wages, or fringe benefits would not be used to demonstrate or excuse compliance with licensing or regulatory requirements. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1979. Sponsored by **Sen. Alan L. Cropsey** (R-DeWitt) and co-sponsored by three others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Families and Human Services 2-2-06. Senate Fiscal Analyses 2-6-06, 2-8-06 and 2-13-06. Senate substitute bill concurred in 2-14-06. Passed by the Senate 2-14-06. Referred to the House Committee on Government Operations 2-14-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analyses 2-27-06 and 3-1-06. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 3-2-06. Returned to the Senate 3-2-06. Given immediate effect by the Senate 3-7-06. Ordered enrolled 3-7-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 1028 of 2006

This bill would amend the Social Welfare Act to prohibit the promulgation of administrative rules or exceptions to rules that discriminate in favor or against a provider, facility or employer, based on the existence of a collective bargaining agreement with employees. This bill further provides that collective bargaining status, level of wages, or fringe benefits would not be used to demonstrate or excuse compliance with licensing or regulatory requirements. Amends Public Act (PA) 280 of 1939. Sponsored by **Sen. Alan Sanborn** (R-Richmond) and co-sponsored by four others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Families and Human Services 2-2-06. Senate Fiscal Analyses 2-6-06, 2-8-06 and 2-13-06. Senate substitute bill concurred in 2-14-06. Passed by the Senate 2-14-06. Referred to the House Committee on Government Operations 2-14-06. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analyses 2-27-06 and 3-1-06. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 3-2-06. Returned to the Senate 3-2-06. Given immediate effect by the Senate 3-7-06. Ordered enrolled 3-7-06.

2005-2006 Public Acts (Through March 10, 2006)

Public Act (PA) 24 of 2005, House Bill (HB) 4188 of 2005

This bill amends the General Property Tax Act to increase from \$25,000 to \$35,000 the maximum household income of a taxpayer 62 years old, or older, who may defer the collection of summer property taxes, and to remove the income limit for other taxpayers eligible for the summer tax collection deferral. It amends Public Act (PA) 206 of 1893. Sponsored by **Rep. Tory Rocca** (R-Sterling Heights) and co-sponsored by 72 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 5-23-05, and assigned PA 24 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 72 of 2005, House Bill (HB) 4434 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to provide that pharmacies that shared a real-time, online database or other equivalent means of communication, or pharmacies that transferred prescriptions pursuant to a written contract for centralized prescription processing services, would not have to follow the procedure established in the Code to refill a copy of a prescription from another pharmacy. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt) and co-sponsored by 82 others, this bill was tie-barred with SB 352 (which meant neither could take effect unless both did). It was **approved by Gov. Granholm 7-19-05, and assigned PA 72 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 73 of 2005, Senate Bill (SB) 352 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to allow a pharmacy to perform centralized

prescription processing services or outsource those services to another pharmacy if certain conditions are met. It amends Public Act 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Sen. Bill Hardiman** (R-Kentwood) and co-sponsored by 23 others, this bill was tie-barred with HB 4434 (which meant neither could take effect unless both did). It was **approved by Gov. Granholm 8-31-05, and assigned PA 73 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 85 of 2005, House Bill (HB) 4405 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to eliminate the authority of a disciplinary subcommittee to impose sanctions against a pharmacist for employing the mail to sell, distribute, or deliver a drug that requires a prescription when the prescription for the drug is received by mail. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Gretchen Whitmer** (D-East Lansing) and co-sponsored by 63 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 7-20-05, and assigned PA 85 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 109 of 2005, House Bill (HB) 4436 of 2005

Appropriations; zero budget; supplemental appropriations; provide for fiscal year 2004-2005. This bill increases private funds authorization for OSA \$75,000 to recognize private contributions for administering the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program for Seniors, or Project FRESH. Federal funds support the food costs, and the administrative costs must be supported by the state and other contributors. It creates a new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 9-15-05, and assigned PA 109 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 114 of 2005, Senate Bill (SB) 348 of 2005

The General Property Tax Act requires local tax collecting units that collect a summer property tax to defer the collection, at the taxpayer's request, until the following February 15 for the principal residence of taxpayers with a household income of \$35,000 or less. To be eligible for the deferment, a taxpayer must be totally and permanently disabled, blind, paraplegic, quadriplegic, or an eligible serviceperson or an eligible veteran (or be the widow or widower of such a person). The deferment is also available to taxpayers who are at least 62 years of age, or the unremarried surviving spouse of a person who was at least 62 years of age at time of death. This bill eliminates the income requirement for these taxpayers, except for taxpayers who are at least 62 years of age, or the unremarried surviving spouse of a person who was at least 62 years of age at the time of death. For those taxpayers, the income threshold will increase to \$37,500 for the 2006 tax year and to \$40,000 for the 2007 tax year and beyond. It amends Public Act (PA) 206 of 1893. Sponsored by **Sen. Nancy Cassis** (R- Novi) and co-sponsored by four others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 9-21-05, and assigned PA 114 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 147 of 2005, Senate Bill (SB) 271 of 2005

Appropriations; Family Independence Agency (now the Department of Human Services); provide for fiscal year 2005-2006. Creates a new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by one other, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-5-05 with line-items vetoed, and assigned PA 147 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 154 of 2005, House Bill (HB) 4831 OF 2005

Appropriations; other; zero budget appropriations bill; provide for fiscal years 2005 and 2006. Creates a new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-5-05 with line items vetoed, and**

assigned PA 154 with immediate effect.

Public Act (PA) 161 of 2005, House Bill (HB) 4996 OF 2005

Under provisions of the Public Health Code, dental hygienists, under the supervision of a dentist, can now provide dental hygiene services to patients who have not first been examined by a dentist as part of a program for “dentally underserved” patients conducted by a local, state, or federal grantee health agency. This bill amends the Public Health Code to revise the criteria for designation as a grantee health agency to include, for example, a public or nonprofit entity, or a school or nursing home that administers a program of dental care to a dentally underserved population. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Barb Vander Veen** (R-Allendale) and co-sponsored by 36 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-4-05, and assigned PA 161 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 187 of 2005, House Bill (HB) 5055 OF 2005

This bill modifies the nursing home and hospital Quality Assurance Assessment Programs (QAAPs) to extend sunsets, reflect the amount of tax retained by the State, and changes the way the nursing home QAAP is assessed. The QAAP includes county-owned nursing homes for the first time. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-27-05, and assigned PA 187 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 338 of 2005, Senate Bill (SB) 529 OF 2005

This bill makes homestead facilities eligible for residential tax abatements under the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act. Before this bill became law, the act applied only to newly constructed and rehabilitated residential housing. This bill applies to other existing residences purchased since December 31, 1997. The homestead facility will receive a property tax abatement equal to one-half of the property taxes levied for operating purposes on the building by the local unit and the county. It amends Public Act 147 of 1992. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Highland Park), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 12/31/05, and assigned PA 338 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 339 of 2005, Senate Bill (SB) 530 OF 2005

This bill makes homestead facilities eligible for residential tax abatements under the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act. Before this bill became law, the act applied only to newly constructed and rehabilitated residential housing. This bill applies to other existing residences purchased since December 31, 1997. The homestead facility will receive a property tax abatement equal to one-half of the property taxes levied for operating purposes on the building by the local unit and the county. It amends Public Act (PA) 147 of 1992. Sponsored by **Sen. Samuel Thomas III** (D-Detroit), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 12-31-05, and assigned PA 339 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 24 of 2006, House Bill (HB) 4670 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to allow an individual who is retired from the active practice of medicine, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatric medicine, and who wishes to donate his or her expertise for the medical care and treatment of indigent and needy individuals or individuals in medically underserved areas of the state, to obtain a special volunteer license to practice by submitting an application to the applicable board. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Gary Newell** (R-Saranac) and co-sponsored by 22 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-06, and assigned PA 24 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 25 of 2006, House Bill (HB) 5375 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to provide for civil immunity for retired physicians who volunteer their services at a health facility or agency serving the medically indigent. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Gary Newell** (R-Saranac) and co-sponsored by 17 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-06, and assigned PA 25 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 26 of 2006, House Bill (HB) 5168 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to require an applicant for a health profession license or registration, or for reinstatement or reclassification of a license or registration, to undergo a criminal background check. In addition, the bill allows a licensing board for good cause to request a licensee or registrant to have a criminal background check. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. It is tie barred with HB 5448, SB 621 and SB 622. Sponsored by **Rep. Paula Zelenko** (D-Burton) and co-sponsored by 50 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-05, and assigned PA 26 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 27 of 2006, House Bill (HB) 5448 of 2005

This bill amends the mental health code to require criminal history checks on individuals seeking employment, an independent contract, or clinical privileges with a psychiatric facility or immediate care facility for people with mental retardation. Amends Public Act (PA) 258 of 1974. It is tie-barred with HB 5168, SB 621 and SB 622. Sponsored by **Rep. Barb Vander Veen** (R-Allendale) and co-sponsored by 47 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-05, and assigned PA 27 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 28 of 2006, Senate Bill (SB) 621 of 2005

This bill expands the requirements for criminal background checks for new employees at health facilities and agencies, as well as individuals seeking clinical privileges and independent contracts. It adds two sections to the Public Health Code that applies to a health facility or agency that is a nursing home, county medical facility, hospice, hospital that provides swing bed services, home for the aged, or home health agency. In each case, a request will be made to the Department of State Police to conduct a criminal history check and to forward fingerprints into the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) database, and to forward fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The State Police will have to request the FBI to make a determination of any national criminal history pertaining to an applicant for employment. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. It is tie-barred with HB 5168, HB 5448 and SB 622. Sponsored by **Sen. Patricia L. Birkholz** (R-Saugatuck) and co-sponsored by six others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-06, and assigned PA 28 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 29 of 2006, Senate Bill (SB) 622 of 2005

This bill expands the requirements for criminal background checks for new employees at foster care facilities, as well as individuals seeking clinical privileges and independent contracts. It amends the Adult Foster Care Facility. In each case, a request will be made to the Department of State Police to conduct a criminal history check and to forward fingerprints into the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) database, and to forward fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The State Police will have to request the FBI to make a determination of any national criminal history pertaining to an applicant for employment. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1979.

It is tie-barred with HB 5168, HB 5448 and SB 621. Sponsored by **Sen. Tony Stamas** (R-Midland) and co-sponsored by six others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-06, and assigned PA 29 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 38 of 2006, House Bill (HB) 4606 of 2005

The bill amends the Public Health Code to require a health facility's or agency's policy describing patient or resident rights and responsibilities to include references to the Medical Records Access Act and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Stephen Adamini** (D-Marquette) and co-sponsored by one other, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 3-2-06, and assigned PA 38 of 2006.**

ABOUT RESOURCES FOR AGING
Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor
Sharon L. Gire, OSA Director

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